LESSON PLAN

The Seller of Images

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
4–8	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on immediate versus long-term gratification. Ask students to share instances where they chose an immediate reward over a potential larger benefit.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read "The Seller of Images" aloud to the class. Use illustrations or pictures to enhance engagement, as this aligns with the idea of *short moral stories with pictures*.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to discuss the characters' motivations. Each group will identify one key character and present their findings to the class, focusing on how their choices drive the moral of the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Ask students to write a brief paragraph reflecting on a personal experience where they faced a similar choice between immediate needs and long-term benefits.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Collect students' reflections to evaluate their understanding of the moral lesson. Additionally, conduct a quick class poll on their thoughts about the story.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Seller of Images; The moral of the story is that immediate needs often outweigh the promise of future benefits.
- **Plot Summary**: A man creates a statue of Mercury and attempts to sell it by claiming it brings wealth and prosperity. When questioned about why he doesn't keep it for himself, he explains that he needs immediate assistance, as the statue's benefits are slow to arrive.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Seller**: Represents those who prioritize immediate needs over potential long-term benefits.
  - **The Bystander**: Acts as a voice of reason, questioning the seller's choices and highlighting the irony of his situation.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the main moral lesson of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters' motivations and actions.
  - Students will discuss the implications of prioritizing immediate needs over future benefits.
  - Students will relate the story's themes to their own life experiences.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What does the seller’s choice reveal about human nature and decision-making?
  - How can we relate this story to our own experiences with immediate gratification?
  - What alternative choices could the seller have made?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Printed copies of the story "The Seller of Images"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Art supplies for extension activities

✓ Original text available on the story page.